

App. Control No. 09/843,914
Art Unit: 3762

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for detecting a tachycardia, comprising:
sensing a heart rate;
comparing the heart rate to a heart rate threshold value;
monitoring a blood pressure sensor upon detecting the heart rate greater than the heart rate threshold value to detect a substantial drop in blood pressure;
invoking a first number of intervals detected (NID) threshold upon detecting the heart rate greater than the heart rate threshold value if a substantial drop in blood pressure is not detected;
invoking a second NID threshold that is lower than the first NID threshold upon detecting a substantial drop in blood pressure;
counting a consecutive number of intervals in which the heart rate is greater than the heart rate threshold value;
making a tachycardia detection if the consecutive number of intervals satisfies the invoked NID threshold, the tachycardia detection being a detection of a hemodynamically stable tachycardia if the first NID threshold is invoked and the tachycardia detection being a detection of a hemodynamically unstable tachycardia if the second NID threshold is invoked ; and
delivering a first therapy upon making a tachycardia detection that the tachycardia is a hemodynamically stable tachycardia and delivering a second therapy upon detection that the tachycardia that is a hemodynamically unstable tachycardia, without reference to any direct patient activity sensor input signals.

2-19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) A pacing apparatus, comprising:
sensing and pacing circuitry for sensing cardiac activity and generating pacing pulses;
a blood pressure sensor to detect a substantial drop in blood pressure; and

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controller circuitry coupled to the blood pressure sensor, the controller circuitry operable to:

sense~~ing~~ a heart rate;

compare~~ing~~ the heart rate to a heart rate threshold value;

monitore~~ing~~ a blood pressure sensor upon detecting the heart rate greater than the heart rate threshold value to detect a substantial drop in blood pressure;

invoke~~ing~~ a first number of intervals detected (NID) threshold upon detecting the heart rate greater than the heart rate threshold value if a substantial drop in blood pressure is not detected;

invoke~~ing~~ a second NID threshold that is lower than the first NID threshold upon detecting a substantial drop in blood pressure;

counting a consecutive number of intervals in which the heart rate is greater than the heart rate threshold value;

make~~ing~~ a tachycardia detection if the consecutive number of intervals satisfies the invoked NID threshold, the tachycardia detection being a detection of a hemodynamically stable tachycardia if the first NID threshold is invoked and the tachycardia detection being a detection of a hemodynamically unstable tachycardia if the second NID threshold is invoked-; and

delivering a first therapy upon making a tachycardia detection that the tachycardia is a hemodynamically stable tachycardia and delivering a second therapy upon detection that the tachycardia that is a hemodynamically unstable tachycardia, without reference to any direct patient activity sensor input signals.

21-36. (cancelled)